

Minutes of the 4th EPSRC HAM Network Project Meeting at Loughborough University on 17th September 2007

Attendants:

Professor Hiroshi Inaba (HI), Tokyo Denki University
Professor Akira Inoue (AI), Okayama University
Professor David H Owens (DHO), Sheffield University
Professor Robert Parkin (RP), Loughborough University
Professor Mike Jackson (MJ), Loughborough University
Professor Darwin Caldwell (DC) (Italian Institute of Technology)
Dr Kaspar Althoefer (KA), King's College London,
Professor Quan Zhu (QZ), University of West England
Professor Hongnian Yu (HY) (Chair), Staffordshire University

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Professor Lakmal Seneviratne.

2 Introduction and Welcome

MJ gave the team a lab tour of Holywell Mechatronics Centre before the meeting.

HY welcomed HI and AI from Japan to this meeting. HI had visited King's College London and delivered a seminar before the meeting. AI had attended the 13th International Conference on Automation and Computing at Stafford and presented a keynote speech.

Each member gave a brief talk on their research interests. RP & MI informed the team that a new PhD student studying HAM had started at Loughborough University. HY informed the team that two PhD students at Staffordshire University were working on the HAM project.

3 Review of the Minutes of Meetings held 5th and 19th July 2007

The team reviewed the minutes of the two previous meetings. The idea for a book on HAM will be evaluated after receiving and evaluating the papers submitted for the special issue on HAM.

4 Journal special issue on HAM

The call for papers for the special issue on HAM has been published. The guest editors have received no papers at this stage. Urgent action is needed to contact / invite potential contributors to submit a paper. HY, HI, DHO, K. Furuta will meet together in November 2007 in Japan to review the situation.

ACTION: HY, HI, DHO, K. Furuta

5 Conference special sessions on HAM in UKACC 2008

(<http://www.control2008.org/sponsors.php>)

The team discussed the special sessions on HAM to be held at UKACC 2008. HY proposed that he should organize two special sessions with HI and DHO.

ACTION: HY, HI and DHO to draft a brief call on the special sessions on HAM and circulate it to interested parties.

6 Postgraduate Workshop during UKACC 2008

HY reported the progress on the preparation of the PG workshop. Prof Hong Wang at Manchester University is working on this with his team and will keep HY informed.

7 Workshops in Japan and the UK

HY informed the group of the plan to have a workshop on HAM in Japan and proposed that it would be better to run the HAM workshop within a planned conference in Japan. MJ mentioned that Mechatronics 2008 will take place in Japan.

ACTION: MJ will email HY the information on Mechatronics 2008 in Japan.

8 Discussion on EoI of the FP7 NoE on HAM

The team discussed the possibility of making an FP7 bid for a NoE on HAM. The team will target the call on “Cognitive systems, Interaction, and Robotics” with a deadline of April 2008. Several acronym names were proposed. Several existing NoEs on robotics and mechatronics were mentioned.

ACTION: DC to inform HY of the existing NoEs on robotics. RP to inform HY of the existing NoEs on mechatronics. HY to draft an EOI on HAM.

9 Discussion of the collaboration between the UK and Japanese teams

AI presented the possibility of responding to the UK-Japan link project call. The deadline is September each year. The team plan to try in 2008.

ACTION: AI, HI, HY and DHO will find the next call.

10 Possible research idea and proposal (e.g. FP7)

DC proposed that he will invite several members of the team to visit the Italian Institute of Technology and discuss the possible FP7 bid.

11 Future directions of the team

This was discussed intensively. The final project workshop on HAM at TDU will be in November 2007. HI will inform the team of the outcomes of the workshop.

ACTION: HI to inform HY of the outcomes of the workshop.

12 A book on HAM

This will be discussed after the special issue on HAM

13 Next meeting

The next meeting will take place at the University of the West of England.

ACTION: QZ & HY to inform the team of the date and venue of the next network meeting.